

Message Text

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TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH ISRAELI ENERGY MINISTER YITZHAK
MODAI, FEBRUARY 24, 1978 11:30 A.M., IN THE SECRETARY'S
OFFICE

PARTICIPANTS: SIMCHA DINITZ, ISRAELI AMBASSADOR
EITAN RAFF, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR
YITZHAK MODAI, ENERGY MINISTER
SECRETARY JAMES R. SCHLESINGER
ROGER D. COLLOFF, SPECIAL ASSISTANT
WALTER J. MCDONALD, PRINCIPAL DEPUTY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY, INTERNATIONAL
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AFFAIRS

1. THE MEETING WAS QUITE BUSINESSLIKE. AFTER INITIAL
NICETIES ON THE STATE OF THE U.S. ENERGY BILL AND AFTER
A GENERAL AND SOMEWHAT BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE ISRAEL
ENERGY SITUATION THE ISRAELIS GOT DOWN TO THE FOUR
POINTS THEY WANTED TO MAKE:

-- SPECIFICALLY, THEY WANT TO SYSTEMATIZE THE U.S.-
ISRAELI ENERGY CONTACTS. TO THIS END THEY ASKED THE
SECRETARY TO NAME A POINT OF CONTACT IN THE DEPARTMENT
THAT THEY COULD DEAL WITH ON MATTERS OF CONCERN TO THEM.
THIS IS A USUAL ISRAELI PRACTICE OF IDENTIFYING DECISION
POINTS IN DEPARTMENTS THAT THEY CAN FOCUS ON. THE
SECRETARY AGREED TO CONSIDER THIS REQUEST.

-- POINT TWO, THEY ASKED ABOUT AN ENERGY BILATERAL. THERE
ARE TWO BINATIONAL FOUNDATIONS ALREADY UNDERWAY THAT THE
ISRAELIS ARE INVOLVED IN BUT THEY WANTED ONE SPECIFICALLY
DEVOTED TO ENERGY. WE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS.

-- POINT THREE, THE ENERGY MINISTER NOTED THE ISRAELIS
WERE QUITE ADVANCED ON SOLAR ENERGY SPECIFICALLY CITING
THE VERY LARGE PERCENTAGE -- ON THE ORDER OF 80 PERCENT
--ON THE HOT WATER FOR HOUSEHOLD USE BEING HEATED PRIMARILY
WITH SOLAR ENERGY. HE ALSO REPORTED ON THEIR SOLAR POND
EXPERIMENT. THE MINISTER CLAIMED THEY HAD DEVELOPED AN
EFFICIENT FIFTY-TON SOLAR AIR-CONDITIONER. HE THOUGHT THAT
THE ISRAELIS HAD SOMETHING THEY COULD BRING TO JOINT SOLAR
PROJECTS.

-- ON THEIR FOURTH POINT, THE ISRAELIS ASKED FOR A FOLLOW-
UP ON THE SHALE OIL SCHEME. THEY HAD SENT SOME QUANTITIES
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OF SHALE TO THE UNITED STATES FOR ANALYSIS AND THOUGHT
THAT THEY HAD DEVELOPED WAYS TO GET OIL OUT OF SHALE THAT
WERE PRETTY EFFICIENT AND THAT THERE COULD BE A USEFUL
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. VANCE

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